

Message Text

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SUBJ: U.S. PROFESSOR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 168823

1. POST TENTATIVELY MOST INTERESTED AMCIV PROFESSOR BEER FOR ASSIGNMENT COTONOU, PENDING CONFIRMATION NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF BENIN (UNB) AND GPRB. AT SAME TIME, WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT EXPATRIATE PROFESSORS AT UNB TYPICALLY COME FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS, AND ALTHOUGH FULBRIGHT IS ONLY FOR ONE YEAR AT A TIME, WOULD NOT LIKE HIM TO THINK IN TERMS OF ONE YEAR ONLY, AT LEAST UNTIL HE AND UNB HAV A CHANCE TO KNOW EACH OTHER.

2. ENGLISH SECTION AT UNB CURRENTLY SOMEWHAT UNSETTLED BY ABSENCE OF DECISIVE BENINESE LEADERSHIP, LEAVING PROFESSORS ALMOST COMPLETELY FREE TO CHOOSE COURSES AND TEXTS THEY PREFER TO TEACH. REGRETTABLY, THIS HAS BEEN INTERPRETED BY SOME FACULTY MEMBERS AS LICENSE TO DO BARE MINIMUM, SO DEPARTMENT CAN USE VIRTUALLY ANY COURSES/TEXTS BEER INTERESTED IN TEACHING.

3. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, ENTIRE AMERICAN STUDIES SECTION OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT THIS PAST YEAR CONSISTED OF FRENCH COOPERANTE AND PAO. COOPERANTE WAS TO TEACH 2 HRS AMHIST/AMCIV, AND 2 NOVELS. FOR SOME REASON THOSE 2 NOVELS WERE NEVER TAUGHT. FOR HIS PART, PAO TAUGHT (IN ENGLISH) SCARLET LETTER, HUCK FINN, EAST OF EDEN AND OLD MAN AND THE SEA, MEETING WITH SENIOR

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CLASS FOUR HOURS PER WEEK. BY DEFAULT, PAO FELT OBLIGED TO ADD

SIX WEEKS OF INTRODUCTION TO AMLIT AT BEGINNING OF YEAR, AS THIS FIRST TIME MOST STUDENTS EVER EXPOSED THAT SUBJECT.

4. PAO PREPARED OFFER SERVICES AGAIN THIS YEAR, ALTHOUGH WOULD BE MOST WILLING AND EAGER TO HAVE BEER TAKE PART OF HIS TIME AND MATERIAL. IF BEER WILLING, PAO WOULD SUGGEST BEER TEACH 2 HRS AMCIV, 2 HRS DEVELOPMENT AMLIT AND 2 HRS BLACK AMLIT. PAO COULD TEACH 2 HRS AMNOVEL, SAY SCARLET LETTER AND HUCK FINN IF BEER DID NOT CHOOSE TO USE NOVEL IN HIS DEVELOPMENT AMLIT COURSE, OR GRAPES OF WRATH AND OLD MAN AND SEA IF BEER WANTS TO USE SCARLET LETTER AND HUCK FINN FOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE. PAO OPEN TO ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS BEER HAS, AS BETWEEN THE TWO, THEY WILL BE TEACHING ENTIRE AMERICAN STUDIES SECTION, NOW THAT FRENCH COOPERANTE IS DECAMPING.

5. BEER SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT STUDENTS' KNOWLEDGE OF AM HISTORY IS POOR AT BEST, SO AMCIV AND DEVELOPMENT COURSES MUST INCLUDE REGULAR REFERENCE TO HISTORICAL SITUATION AFFECTING MATERIAL BEING USED.

6. UNB HAS ALSO INFORMED US THEY UNABLE TO FIND PROFESSOR OF AFRICAN LITERATURE, IN WHICH CASE BEER MIGHT BE ASKED TO TEACH THAT. DEAN OF FACULTY ARTS, LETTERS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES HAS ALSO ASKED USIS TO SUPPLY PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH FOR OTHER FACULTY MEMBERS INTERESTED IN IMPROVING THEIR ENGLISH FOR BROADENING ACADEMIC READINGS, AND ALTHOUGH USIS HAD PLANNED TO USE TEACHER FROM ITS OWN ENGLISH COURSES, BEER MIGHT WISH TO TAKE THIS PROGRAM ON FOR CONTACT IT WOULD OFFER WITH OTHER FACULTY MEMBERS. ONE OF LAWTON'S COMPLAINTS WAS THAT OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCH CONTACT VIRTUALLY NONEXISTANT.

7. ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS EARLY OCTOBER. IF BEER APPROVED BY ALL CONCERNED, HE SHOULD PLAN ARRIVE END SEPTEMBET AND STAY THROUGH MID OR END JULY.

8. HOUSING SUPPLIED TO LAWTONS LAST YEAR, AND WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE MADE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR, IS THREE BEDROOM, SINGLE BATHROOM (SHOWER ONLY, NO TUB) APARTMENT IN RESIDENTIAL SUBURB OF COTONOU. APARTMENT IS SCREENED, HAS FAIRLY RELIABLE WATER/ELECTRICITY AND KITCHEN/LAUNDRY APPL-
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IANCES, AND ONE AIR CONDITIONER IN MASTER BEDROOM.

9. DUTY-FREE PRIVILEGES NOT AVAILABLE, NOR CAN PROFESSOR USE EMBASSY COMMISSARY OR POUCH. EMBASSY HEALTH UNIT AVAILABLE FOR INNOCULATIONS, AND EXCELLENT AMERICAN PEDIATRICIAN IN COTONOU OFFERS SERVICES AT MODEST RATES. MAJOR EXPENSE IS PURCHASE OF PERSONAL VEHICLE, COSTING \$2000-4000 USED, AND VIRTUALLY ESSENTIAL FOR WORK AND LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES HERE. GOOD NEWS

IS THAT RESALE VALUE REMAINS MODERATELY HIGH.

10. LAWTONS RETURNING MID-AUGUST.

11. WILL INFORM WHEN UNB, GPRB ACCEPTANCE RECEIVED. DEAN OF
FACULTY HAS BEEN INFORMED, MOST ANXIOUS RECEIVE FULBRIGHT
NOMINEE, ASSURES PAO THAT ACCEPTANCE FORTHCOMING SOON.
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